

desired distance below the bridge portion;

c) a floor comprising a plurality of flooring panels each extending transversely of said cables and resting on said cables, each of said panels having at least one means defining an opening therein; and

d) means for releasably securing said flooring panels to said cables, said releasably securing means including a member extending through each of said opening means and having a portion which is shaped to define with said respective panel an eyelet, and said cables passing through respective ones of said eyelets.

16. A combination according to claim 15 wherein said bridge further has at least two spaced apart structural members and wherein said cable securing means comprises a compression clamp structure on each of said structural members, said cables being connected at each of opposite ends thereof to one of said compression clamp structures.

17. A combination according to claim 15 further comprising an other member which overlies said respective panel and which has aperture means therein, said eyelet member having a threaded free end portion which is received in and extends through said aperture means so that a nut can be threaded on said free end portion to fasten said other member and said eyelet member together.

18. A combination according to claim 15 wherein said flooring panels comprise corrugated elongated rectangular decking members with corrugations thereof extending transversely of said cables.

19. A combination according to claim 15 wherein the bridge

also has at least two spaced apart structural supports, said plurality of cables extend between said structural supports, and said cable securing means includes at least one member clampingly connected to each of said structural supports, said cables secured at respective ends thereof to said clampingly connected members respectively.

Conti.
20. A combination according to claim ~~15~~ wherein the bridge also has at least two spaced apart structural supports, said plurality of cables extend between said structural supports, and said cable securing means includes first beam means for contacting a surface of a respective one of said structural supports, second beam means for contacting an opposite surface of said respective one structural support, and compression force applying means for forcing said first and second beam means against said respective one structural support.

21. A combination according to claim ~~15~~ wherein the bridge also has at least two spaced apart piers each having a pair of pedestals, said plurality of cables extend between said piers, and said cable securing means includes a single beam for contacting both of said pedestals of said respective pier, a pair of beams for contacting said pedestals respectively of said respective pier, and connecting rods for compressing said pair of beams and said single beam against said pedestals.

22. A combination according to claim ~~15~~ further comprising at least one auxiliary supporting cable one end of which is connected to a respective one of said releasably securing means and an other end of which is connected to the bridge to provide additional support for said platform.

9.23. A combination according to claim 15 further comprising at least one tarpaulin enclosure extending between said platform and the bridge for defining a region between said platform and the bridge which enhances containment of the debris.

24. A method for supporting persons performing work on a portion of a bridge comprising installing a platform below a deck of the bridge and supporting the persons on the platform, the step of installing the platform comprising the sub-steps of:

a) securing a plurality of cables to the bridge so that the cables extend along the bridge in spaced relation to each other and in a plane substantially parallel to the bridge deck at a selected distance below the bridge portion;

b) erecting a floor on the cables, the step of erecting the floor comprising resting on the cables a plurality of flooring panels each having at least one opening therein so that the flooring panels extend transversely of the cables; and

d) releasably securing the flooring panels to the cables, said sub-step of releasably securing the flooring panels including receiving in each of the openings a first portion of a member which has a second portion which is shaped to form with said respective panel an openable eyelet, receiving the cables in the eyelets respectively while the eyelets are open, and attaching the first member portions to the panels respectively to close the eyelets.

25. A method according to claim 24 wherein the sub-step of securing the cables comprises installing a compression clamp structure on each of a pair of spaced apart bridge structural members and connecting opposite ends of the cables to the compression clamp structures respectively.

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12 26. A method according to claim ¹⁰~~24~~ wherein said sub-step of releasably securing the flooring panels further includes receiving the second portion in an aperture of an other member which overlies the respective panel and attaching the other member to the second portion to close the eyelet.

Respectfully submitted,

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